



General Assembly

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 101

ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mario DE LEON (Philippines)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item jointly with item 102 at its 18th to 24th, 31st, 39th and 40th meetings, on 24 to 26, 29 and 30 October and 5, 12 and 13 November 1990. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.18-24).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council; 1/

(b) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; 2/

1/ A/45/3, chap. V, sect. B. To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/45/3/Rev.1).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38 and corrigendum (A/45/38 and Corr.1).

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(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/45/426);

(d) Letter dated 4 April 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/202-S/21230);

(e) Letter dated 18 April 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/222-S/21255);

(f) Letter dated 19 April 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/225-S/21256);

(g) Letter dated 23 April 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/230-S/21268);

(h) Letter dated 24 April 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/254-S/21271);

(i) Letter dated 1 May 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/264-S/21283);

(j) Letter dated 2 May 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/265-S/21284);

(k) Letter dated 7 May 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/269-S/21288);

(l) Letter dated 8 May 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/270-S/21290);

(m) Letter dated 16 May 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/280);

(n) Letter dated 12 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/45/5).

4. At the 18th meeting, on 24 October, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Focal Point for Women in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management, and the Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women made introductory statements (see A/C.3/45/SR.18).

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II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/45/L.22

5. At the 31st meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Denmark, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Myanmar, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Turkey, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.22) entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women". Subsequently, Nigeria and Senegal joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 40th meeting, on 13 November, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

8. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, by which it adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on the Convention, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/17 of 24 May 1990,

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Taking note of resolution 34/6 of 8 March 1990, adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, 3/

Taking note also of the decisions taken on 6 February 1990 at the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,

Aware of the important contribution that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 4/ can make to eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and to achieving legal and de facto equality between women and men,

Noting the emphasis placed by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, on the ratification of and accession to the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its ninth session, 5/

Noting that the Committee agreed, in examining reports, to take due account of the different cultural and socio-economic systems of States parties to the Convention,

Recalling that in article 17, paragraph 9, of the Convention the Secretary-General is required to provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee,

Recalling also its resolution 44/73 of 8 December 1989 in which, inter alia, it strongly supported the view of the Committee that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority to strengthening support for the Committee,

Welcoming the general recommendations contained in the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventh, 6/ eighth 7/ and ninth sessions, 5/

3/ See E/1990/25, chap. I, sect. C; for the final text, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 5.

4/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1990 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38 and corrigendum (A/45/38 and Corr.1).

6/ Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/43/38).

7/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38).

1. Welcomes the ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by an increasing number of Member States;
2. Urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;
3. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;
4. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General ^{8/} and requests him to submit annually to the General Assembly a report on the status of the Convention;
5. Also takes note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its ninth session;
6. Invites States parties to the Convention to make all possible efforts to submit their initial as well as second and subsequent periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee, and to co-operate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;
7. Welcomes the efforts made by the Committee to rationalize its procedures and expedite the consideration of periodic reports and to develop procedures and guidelines for the consideration of second and subsequent periodic reports, and strongly encourages the Committee to continue those efforts;
8. Welcomes also, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 11, ^{9/} the initiatives taken to provide regional training courses on the preparation and drafting of reports of States parties for government officials and training and information seminars for States considering acceding to the Convention, and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations to support such initiatives;
9. Recognizes the special relevance of the periodic reports of States parties to the Convention to the efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women to review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in those countries;
10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to provide secretariat staff, including legal staff members expert in human rights treaty implementation, and technical resources for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee;

^{8/} A/45/426.

^{9/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), sect. V.

11. Strongly supports the view of the Committee that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority within existing resources to strengthening technical and substantive support for the Committee, in particular to assist in preparatory research;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of the resources available and necessary to ensure adequate support to the Committee and to the effective implementation of all other aspects of the programme on advancement of women, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

13. Welcomes the establishment of the pre-session working group of the Committee to consider second and subsequent periodic reports, which should greatly expedite the work of the Committee, and urges that this practice be continued, within the regular budget allocation;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide, facilitate and encourage, within existing resources, the dissemination of public information relating to the Committee, its recommendations, the Convention and the concept of legal literacy, taking into account the Committee's own recommendations to that end;

15. Recommends that meetings of the Committee should be scheduled, whenever possible, to allow for the timely transmission of the results of its work to the Commission on the Status of Women, for information, in the same year;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and to transmit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session.



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Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 102

FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN
TO THE YEAR 2000

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mario DE LEON (Philippines)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item jointly with item 101 at its 18th to 24th, 31st, 39th and 40th meetings, on 24 to 26, 29 and 30 October and 5, 12 and 13 November 1990. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.18-24).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council; 1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (A/45/489);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/45/548);

1/ A/45/3, chap. V, sect. B. To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/45/3/Rev.1).

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/45/347);

(e) Letter dated 12 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/45/5).

4. At the 18th meeting, on 24 October, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Focal Point for Women in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management, and the Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women made introductory statements (see A/C.3/45/SR.18).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.3/45/L.19/Rev.1 and Rev.2

5. At the 31st meeting, on 5 November, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sweden, Turkey, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.19/Rev.1) entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat". Subsequently, Mongolia and Papua New Guinea joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Articles 8, 100, and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

"Recalling also its resolution 2715 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, by which it first addressed the question of the employment of women in the Professional category, and all relevant resolutions that have continued to focus on this area since then,

"Recalling further the Secretary-General's report of 8 November 1985 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat ^{1/} which was submitted pursuant to Assembly resolution 39/245 of 18 December 1984,

^{1/} A/C.5/40/30.

"Recalling the relevant paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 2/ and in particular paragraphs 315, 356 and 358 thereof,

Noting the recommendations for action contained in the fourth report of the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat of 30 June 1988, 3/ and realizing that they have not all been implemented,

"Noting also that the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat has resumed its work and will soon be submitting a new report with recommendations to the Secretary-General,

"Noting further that the Office of Human Resources Management of the United Nations Secretariat has implemented some special emergency measures pursuant to fulfilling the mandates found in paragraph 27 of the Secretary-General's report of 8 November 1985 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat 1/ and subsequent resolutions on this topic,

"Noting with appreciation the fact that the Secretary-General's report of 1 October 1990 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat 4/ was submitted under agenda item 102,

"Noting with concern that, although there has been a slight increase in the percentage of women in the Secretariat, women still constitute less than 30 per cent of the Professional staff and there has been a decrease in the number of women at the level of Assistant Secretary-General and above in the last twelve months,

"Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/3 of 24 May 1990,

"1. Reiterates its full support for the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer of the Organization and his prerogatives and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations;

"2. Asserts that the paramount consideration in the employment of all staff shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and that the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat will contribute to upholding this principle;

"2/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10, chap. I, sect. A.

"3/ A/C.5/43/14.

"4/ A/45/548.

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"3. Urges the Secretary-General to continue all possible efforts to increase the number of women throughout the United Nations system, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, in order to achieve an overall participation rate of 30 per cent by the end of 1990 and 35 per cent by 1995, with due regard to equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with the Secretary-General's report of 8 November 1985, 1/ all relevant subsequent resolutions and the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997; 5/

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to increase the representation of women from developing countries, including at the senior and policy-formulating levels, in view of the small proportion of women from those countries;

"5. Requests that Member States continue to support the efforts on the United Nations, its specialized agencies and the regional commissions to increase the percentage of women in the Professional category and above by, inter alia, nominating more women candidates, especially for senior policy-level and decision-making posts, by encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and by creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the United Nations Secretariat, the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and the regional commissions;

"6. Also requests that the Secretary-General continue to address the unfulfilled points of the action programme, contained in his report of 8 November 1985, which 'aims at the creation of a framework for the advancement of women as an integrated component of the United Nations policy-making process' and by so doing fulfil the goal of this action programme 'to secure and maintain the attitudinal changes and the management commitment required for the full participation of women in the work of the Secretariat under the conditions of equality';

"7. Further requests that the Secretary-General include in his report to the General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women an action programme for the advancement of women in the Secretariat for the period 1991-1995, further to the request contained in resolution 44/75 of 8 December 1989, which will in turn include a comprehensive evaluation and analysis by the Secretariat of the main obstacles to the improvement of the status of women in the Organization and propose solutions to overcome those obstacles;

"8. Requests that the Secretary-General, within existing resources, ensure that adequate machinery, with the authority of enforcement and the responsibility of accountability, including a senior-level official devoted to implementation of the action programme, is maintained and, to the extent possible, strengthened during the course of the 1991-1995 programme;

"9. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that his annual report on progress achieved and future strategies to implement action programmes on the status of women in the Secretariat and the relevant mandates adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and the recommendations of the new Steering Committee are submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session and to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for consideration under the item entitled 'Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000'."

6. At the 39th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of the United States, on behalf of Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Sweden, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zaire, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.19/Rev.2). Subsequently, Benin, Cameroon, Nigeria and Samoa joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

7. Subsequently, Benin, Cameroon, Nigeria and Samoa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. The changes in the revised draft resolution were as follows:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph, the words "Articles 8, 100 and 101" were replaced by "Articles 1, 8, 97 and 101";

(b) Operative paragraphs 1 and 2 were deleted;

(c) In new operative paragraph 1 (former operative paragraph 3), in the first line, the words "in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations" were inserted between the words "to continue" and "all possible efforts", and in the third line, the words "and particularly from the developing countries in view of the small proportion of women from these countries in such posts" were inserted between the words "decision-making posts" and "in order to";

(d) Former operative paragraph 4 was deleted.

8. At the 40th meeting, on 13 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement on the programme budget implications of the revised draft resolution (see A/C.3/45/SR.40).

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.19/Rev.2 without a vote (see para. 20, draft resolution I).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Japan made statements.

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.20

11. At the 31st meeting, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Poland, Samoa, Senegal, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.20) entitled "Women and literacy". Subsequently, Guyana, Niger and Nigeria joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.20 without a vote (see para. 20, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.21

13. At the 31st meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Algeria, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Denmark, Egypt, Italy, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Senegal, Sweden and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.21) entitled "Interregional consultation on women in public life". Subsequently, Samoa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

14. At its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.21 without a vote (see para. 20, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.24

15. At the 31st meeting, the representative of India, also on behalf of Mexico, the Netherlands and Senegal, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.24) entitled "United Nations Development Fund for Women". Subsequently, Guyana and Nigeria joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

16. At its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.24 without a vote (see para. 20, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.25

17. At the 31st meeting, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.25) entitled "Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women".

18. At the 40th meeting, the representative of Bolivia, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

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(a) At the end of operative paragraph 6, the words "based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme 'Employment, Health and Education', and urges all organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate effectively with the Commission in this task" were added;

(b) In operative paragraph 7, the word "themes" was replaced by the word "theme";

(c) In operative paragraph 18, the words "migrant women and refugee women" were replaced by the words "refugee women and children and migrant women".

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.25, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 20, draft resolution V).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

20. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1, 8, 97 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolution 2715 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, in which it first addressed the question of the employment of women in the Professional category, and all relevant resolutions that have continued to focus on this area since then,

Recalling further the report of the Secretary-General of 8 November 1985 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, 2/ which was submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/245 of 18 December 1984,

Recalling the relevant paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 3/ in particular paragraphs 315, 356 and 358 thereof,

2/ A/C.5/40/30.

3/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10, chap. I, sect. A).

Recalling also the recommendations for action contained in the fourth report, of 30 June 1988, 4/ of the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat, and realizing that they have not all been implemented,

Noting that the Steering Committee has resumed its work and will soon be submitting a report with recommendations to the Secretary-General,

Noting also that the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat has implemented some special emergency measures pursuant to fulfilling the mandates found in paragraph 27 of the report of the Secretary-General 2/ and subsequent resolutions on this topic,

Noting with appreciation that the report of the Secretary-General of 1 October 1990 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat 5/ was also submitted under the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000",

Noting with concern that, although there has been a slight increase in the percentage of women in the Secretariat, women still constitute less than 30 per cent of the Professional staff and that there has been a decrease in the number of women at the level of Assistant Secretary-General and above in the past twelve months,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/3 of 24 May 1990,

1. Urges the Secretary-General to continue, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, all possible efforts to increase the number of women throughout the United Nations system, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, and particularly from the developing countries in view of the small proportion of women from these countries in such posts, in order to achieve an overall participation rate of 30 per cent by the end of 1990 and 35 per cent by 1995, with due regard to equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with the report of the Secretary-General of 8 November 1985, 2/ all relevant subsequent resolutions and the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997; 6/

2. Requests Member States to continue to support the efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and the regional commissions to increase the percentage of women in the Professional category and above by, inter alia, nominating more women candidates, especially for senior policy-level and decision-making posts, by encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and by creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the Secretariat, the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and the regional commissions;

4/ A/C.5/43/14.

5/ A/45/548.

6/ A/45/6.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to address the unfulfilled points of the action programme, contained in his report of 8 November 1985, which aims at the creation of a framework for the advancement of women as an integrated component of the United Nations policy-making process and by so doing to fulfil the goal of the action programme to secure and maintain the attitudinal changes and the management commitment required for the full participation of women in the work of the Secretariat under the conditions of equality; 7/

4. Also requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to be submitted to the General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women an action programme for the advancement of women in the Secretariat for the period 1991-1995, further to the request contained in paragraph 5 of its resolution 44/75 of 8 December 1989, which should also include a comprehensive evaluation and analysis by the Secretariat of the main obstacles to the improvement of the status of women in the Organization and should propose solutions to overcome those obstacles;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to ensure that adequate machinery, with the authority of enforcement and the responsibility of accountability, including a senior-level official devoted to implementation of the action programme, is maintained and, to the extent possible, strengthened during the course of the programme for the period 1991-1995;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that his annual report on progress achieved and future strategies to implement action programmes on the status of women in the Secretariat and the relevant mandates adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and the recommendations of the Steering Committee for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the Secretariat are submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session and to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for consideration under the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Women and literacy

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 8/ and the

7/ See A/C.5/40/30, paras. 2 and 26.

8/ Resolution 217 A (III).

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 9/ the inalienable right of every individual to education is recognized,

Recalling also the special references to and recommendations on women's needs in relation to literacy, education and training contained in paragraphs 163 to 173 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000, 10/

Recalling further Commission on the Status of Women resolution 34/8 on women and literacy, 11/

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, the annex to which contains the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in which, inter alia, it is recommended that Governments should make special efforts to remove all gender-related differences in adult literacy by the year 2000 and that programmes should be established to ensure that parents and teachers provide equal educational opportunities for girls and boys,

Noting that in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 12/ States parties, inter alia, committed themselves to take actions to ensure equal access to education for women and men,

Recalling its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, and 44/127 of 15 December 1989, in which it called for continuing international efforts to promote literacy,

Recalling also the World Declaration on Education for All adopted by the World Conference on Education for All, held at Chomtien, Thailand, in 1990, in which it is recognized that literacy programmes are indispensable to the basic learning needs of all and that the most urgent priority is to ensure access to, and improve the quality of, education for girls and women and to remove every obstacle that hampers their active participation,

Mindful of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/12 of 24 May 1990, in which it recommended that a world conference on women be held in 1995,

9/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

10/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. 1, sect. A.

11/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 5 (E/1990/25), chap. I, sect. C.

12/ Resolution 34/180.

Taking note of the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, ^{13/} adopted by the World Summit for Children, in which, inter alia, the adoption of measures was called for that emphasized the need to improve the current disparities between girls and boys in access to basic education and the need to reduce adult illiteracy by half, with an emphasis on female illiteracy, before the year 2000,

Mindful of the fact that the eradication of illiteracy, including illiteracy among women, is one of the paramount objectives of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

Recognizing that in many countries there is a significant gap between enrolments and retention levels of girls and boys in basic education programmes, just as there is a gap in literacy between adult men and women, which denies women of all ages the opportunity to participate fully in national development activities,

Bearing in mind that increased literacy levels have already been directly associated with reduced population growth in many parts of the world and that the promotion of women's literacy is an important element in ensuring the success of national objectives relating to population,

1. Notes with appreciation the commendable work done in conjunction with International Literacy Year by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme;

2. Commends those Governments that have launched national programmes aimed at meeting the objectives of the Year;

3. Notes with satisfaction the active involvement of many non-governmental organizations in the Year and, in particular, the establishment of the International Task Force on Literacy;

4. Encourages the Secretary-General and Member States, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to support efforts to increase literacy by:

(a) Improving the educational opportunities for females of all ages, particularly children;

(b) Providing basic education to all without discrimination based on gender and in settings that are accessible and culturally acceptable;

(c) Encouraging the development of gender-specific indicators and measurements for assessing the impact of educational and training efforts in both

^{13/} See A/45/625, annex.

domestic and international projects and programmes and for assessing the inclusion and participation of women of all ages in those efforts;

5. Also encourages Member States to attempt to disaggregate by gender data in such areas as school enrolment, completion, participation and repetition rates;

6. Urges Member States to eliminate de jure and de facto barriers to schooling for women of all ages;

7. Calls upon Member States to give special attention and emphasis to the guidelines and recommendations developed for the Year when implementing measures to eliminate illiteracy;

8. Encourages the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant United Nations organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, to assist Member States in strengthening strategies to target resources to women of all ages, especially those most disadvantaged, and thereby work towards the elimination of illiteracy of women of all ages;

9. Calls upon Member States to accelerate the participation of women in literacy programmes, particularly in areas pertaining to the improvement of their socio-economic condition, including legal literacy and income-generating and skill-building activities;

10. Encourages Member States to increase the number of tutors and trainers with the necessary qualifications, to maximize their efforts to reach women and to increase the participation of non-governmental and private volunteer organizations, particularly women's organizations, in the implementation and management of literacy programmes and in policy and programme development;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare for the world conference on women in 1995 a report on the progress to increase female literacy made by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system;

12. Requests the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to pay particular attention to measures taken by Governments to increase female literacy through, particularly, ensuring equal access to basic education for girls and boys;

13. Requests the Secretary-General in his next update to the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development to examine specifically the relationship between the literacy of women and their economic and social advancement.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Interregional consultation on women in public life

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/77 of 8 December 1989, in which it endorsed the convening in 1991 of an interregional consultation on women in public life,

Concerned that the level of participation by women in decision-making in almost all countries is exceedingly low,

Stressing the importance of women's full participation in the political process at all levels, especially in top decision-making, as a means of achieving the objectives set in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 14/

Considering that the consultation is an important event towards the preparations for the 1995 world conference on women,

1. Decides that the consultation on women in public life should be an intergovernmental meeting;
2. Urges all Governments to participate actively in the consultation and for that purpose to designate as participants women who currently hold leadership positions in government and national institutions and organizations or are considered to have the potential for high public office;
3. Invites Governments and national institutions and organizations to provide extrabudgetary resources to facilitate preparations for the consultation, especially for the participation of least developed countries and for the dissemination in the mass media of information about the consultation;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure the necessary servicing and support of the consultation and to transmit its conclusions in a report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

14/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IX.10), chap. I, sect. A.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, in which it decided to establish the United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme,

Reaffirming that the Fund has an important role in contributing to an increase in opportunities and options for women in developing countries,

Emphasizing the position of the Fund as a specialized resource base for development co-operation, serving as a bridge between the needs and aspirations of women and the resources, programmes and policies for their economic development,

Taking note of the reports of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women referred to in the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, 15/

1. Commends the United Nations Development Fund for Women for its efforts to increase the visibility of women and to ensure that issues relating to women are on the agenda of the mainstream development efforts of Governments, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;
2. Takes note with satisfaction of the achievements of the Fund in giving a high profile to its work and in increasing and broadening its financial resource base, including with the support of the national committees for the Fund;
3. Welcomes the development of new strategies for the programme management of the Fund based on long-term and short-term priorities;
4. Encourages the Fund in its efforts to document and share its experiences in the context of increasing emphasis on the human development dimension in technical co-operation;
5. Urges Governments and public and private donors to continue to extend their support to the Fund through voluntary contributions and pledges to its programmes;
6. Stresses the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme matters relating to the activities of the Fund;

15/ See A/45/347, annex.

7. Requests the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of providing conference services in the relevant working languages to the Consultative Committee, bearing in mind the importance of its work;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session the report of the Administration of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the Fund to be submitted in accordance with resolution 39/125.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 43/101 of 8 December 1988, in which, inter alia, it endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 16/ for the period up to the year 2000 and set out measures for their immediate implementation and for the overall achievement of the interrelated goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on issues relating to women since its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987,

Reaffirming its resolution 40/30 of 29 November 1985, in which it emphasized that the elderly must be considered an important and necessary element in the development process at all levels within a given society and that, consequently, elderly women should be considered contributors to as well as beneficiaries of development,

Reaffirming also its determination to encourage the full participation of women in economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs and to promote development, co-operation and international peace,

Conscious of the important and constructive contribution to the improvement of the status of women made by the Commission on the Status of Women, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned,

Emphasizing once again the priority of the implementation, monitoring, review and appraisal of the Forward-looking Strategies,

16/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recognizing the advancement of women as one of the priorities of the Organization for the biennium 1990-1991,

Recalling that the Commission held in 1990 a session of extended duration to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women; 17/

2. Also takes note of the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990;

3. Urges Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to implement those recommendations and conclusions;

4. Reaffirms paragraph 2 of the recommendations and conclusions, in which it is stated that the pace of implementation of the strategies must be improved in the crucial last decade of the twentieth century since the cost to societies of failing to implement the Forward-looking Strategies would be high in terms of slowed economic and social development, misuse of human resources and reduced progress for society as a whole and, for that reason, immediate steps should be taken to remove the most serious obstacles to the implementation of the Strategies;

5. Calls again upon Member States to give priority to policies and programmes relating to the sub-theme "Employment, health and education", in particular to literacy, for the empowerment of women, especially those in the rural areas, to meet their own needs through self-reliance and the mobilization of indigenous resources, as well as to issues relating to the role of women in economic and political decision-making, population, environment and information;

6. Reaffirms the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women, and calls upon the Commission to continue promoting the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000, based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, Health and Education", and urges all organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate effectively with the Commission in this task;

7. Requests the Commission, when considering the priority theme under development during its thirty-fifth and subsequent sessions, to ensure its early contribution to the work of the international meeting on population to be held in 1994 and to address the role of technologies in the development of developing countries;

8. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/12 of 24 May 1990, in which the Council recommended that a world conference on women should be held in 1995 and requested that the Commission act as the preparatory body for the world conference;

9. Takes note of the invitation extended by the Government of Austria to host the world conference on women in 1995 at Vienna;

10. Requests the Commission, as the preparatory body for the world conference, to decide on the venue of the conference, not later than 1992, taking into account that preference should be given to those regions that have not yet hosted a world conference on women;

11. Also requests the Commission, in deciding on the preparations for documentation for the conference, to pay attention to Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/9 of 24 May 1990 concerning the second report on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies;

12. Further requests the Commission to focus the agenda of the world conference in 1995 on the Forward-looking Strategies as well as on the recommendations and conclusions of the first review and appraisal;

13. Requests the Commission to ask the Secretary-General to appoint not later than 1992 the Secretary-General of the conference;

14. Requests the relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide action-oriented inputs when reporting to the Commission on the priority theme;

15. Emphasizes, in the framework of the Forward-looking Strategies, the importance of the total integration of women in the development process, bearing in mind the specific and urgent needs of the developing countries, and calls upon Member States to establish specific targets at each level in order to increase the participation of women in professional, management and decision-making positions in their countries;

16. Also emphasizes the need to give urgent attention to redressing socio-economic inequities at the national and international levels as a necessary step towards the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies;

17. Urges that particular attention be given by the United Nations and Governments to the situation of disabled women and that Governments take steps to ensure the equalization of opportunities for these women in the economic, social and political fields;

18. Also urges the Commission, the relevant organizations of the United Nations and Governments to give particular attention to refugee women and children and migrant women, taking into account their contribution to the social, economic and political fields and the urgent need to avoid all kinds of discrimination against them;

19. Endorses the convening in 1991 of a high-level interregional consultation on women in public life, to be financed within existing resources and voluntary and other contributions;

20. Requests the Secretary-General, in formulating the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 and in integrating the Forward-looking Strategies into activities mandated by the General Assembly, to pay particular attention to the strengthening of national machineries for the advancement of women and to specific sectoral themes that cut across the three objectives, equality, development and peace, in particular literacy, education, health, population, environment and the full participation of women in decision-making;

21. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, ^{19/} bearing in mind its importance, with particular emphasis on the adverse impact of the difficult economic situation affecting the majority of developing countries, in particular on the condition of women, giving special attention to worsening conditions for the incorporation of women into the labour force as well as to the impact of reduced expenditures on social services on women's opportunities for education, health and child care, and to submit a preliminary version of the updated World Survey to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, in 1993 and a final version in 1994;

22. Requests Governments, when presenting candidatures for vacancies in the Secretariat, in particular at the decision-making level, to give priority to women's candidatures, and requests the Secretary-General in reviewing these candidatures to give special consideration to female candidates from underrepresented and unrepresented developing countries;

23. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Forward-looking Strategies;

24. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for the existing weekly radio programmes on women in the regular budget of the United Nations, making adequate provisions for broadcasts in different languages, and to develop the focal point for issues relating to women in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, which, in concert with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, should provide a more effective public information programme relating to the advancement of women;

^{19/} E/CN.6/1988/7.

25. Further requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, an assessment of recent developments that are relevant to the priority themes to be considered at the subsequent session of the Commission and to transmit to the Commission a summary of relevant views expressed by delegations during the debate in the Assembly;

26. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

27. Decides to consider these questions further at its forty-sixth session under the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000".



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IMPORTANCE OF THE UNIVERSAL REALIZATION OF THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES
TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND OF THE SPEEDY GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES FOR THE EFFECTIVE GUARANTEE
AND OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mario DE LEON (Philippines)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Committee considered this item jointly with items 88, 91 and 98 at its 4th to 10th, 18th, 28th, 29th and 31st meetings, on 10 to 12, 15, 16 and 24 October and 1, 2 and 5 November 1990. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.4-10).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights (A/45/500);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/45/488).

4. At the 3rd meeting, on 8 October 1990, the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights made an introductory statement on the item. At the same meeting, the Committee also heard an introduction by the Special Rapporteur on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (see A/C.3/45/SR.3).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.6

5. At the 18th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Sierra Leone, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.6) entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights".

6. At the same meeting, the representative of Sierra Leone orally revised the draft resolution by adding, at the end of the seventh preambular paragraph, the words "and the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa" adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989 and the same phrase in operative paragraph 13, between "21 August 1989" and "by releasing".

7. At its 29th meeting, on 2 November, following a statement by the representative of Israel in explanation of vote before the vote (see A/C.3/45/SR.29), the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 104 to 15, with 23 abstentions (see para. 18, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

/...

Against: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Dominica, El Salvador, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Malta, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, Spain, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

8. At the same meeting, after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the United States, Italy (on behalf of the States members of the European Community), Argentina, Uruguay, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Chile, Bulgaria, Hungary and Australia (see A/C.3/45/SR.29).

9. At the 31st meeting, 5 November, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Romania, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Mexico, El Salvador, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ecuador, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic (see A/C.3/45/SR.31).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.9

10. At the 18th meeting, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Ecuador, Jordan, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, the Sudan, Thailand and the United Arab Emirates, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.9) entitled "Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination". Subsequently, Sierra Leone and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

11. At its 31st meeting, on 5 November 1990, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 18, draft resolution II).

12. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of India (see A/C.3/45/SR.31).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.10

13. At the 18th meeting, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Maldives, Liberia, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.10) entitled "Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination".

/...

14. Subsequently, Madagascar and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At the 31st meeting, following a statement by the representative of El Salvador and a statement in explanation of vote before the vote by the representative of Italy (on behalf of the States members of the European Community) (see A/C.3/45/SR.31), the Committee adopted the draft resolution by a recorded vote of 105 to 10, with 20 abstentions (see para. 18, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows: 1/

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Against: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

16. At the same meeting, statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of the United States, Brazil, Japan, Turkey, Paraguay, Malawi and Norway (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden).

1/ The delegations of Ghana, Ethiopia and Djibouti subsequently indicated that, had they been present during the voting, they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

17. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Uganda, Zambia, Australia, Algeria, Zimbabwe and Nigeria in connection with the draft resolutions adopted.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

18. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in the importance of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Reaffirming also the importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples as imperatives for the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Reaffirming further the obligation of all Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial and foreign domination,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) and all relevant resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Welcoming Namibia's attainment of independence,

Bearing in mind the Declaration adopted by the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, 2/

Welcoming the adoption at Harare on 21 August 1989 of the Declaration of the Organization of African Unity Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa on the question

2/ Report of the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, Paris, 16-20 June 1986 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.I.23), chap. IX.

of South Africa 3/ and its subsequent endorsement by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 4/ as well as the report of the Monitoring Group of the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the Organization of African Unity, 5/ and the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, 6/ adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989,

Bearing in mind the outcome of the International Conference on the Alliance between South Africa and Israel, held at Vienna from 11 to 13 July 1983, 7/

Taking note of resolution CM/Res.1272 (LII) on South Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its fifty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 3 to 7 July 1990, 8/

Reaffirming that the system of apartheid imposed on the South African people constitutes a violation of the fundamental rights of that people, a crime against humanity and a constant threat to international peace and security,

Reaffirming also its resolution 39/2 of 28 September 1984, and recalling Security Council resolution 554 (1984) of 17 August 1984, in which the Council rejected the so-called "new constitution" as null and void, and Council resolution 569 (1985) of 26 July 1985,

Alarmed by the continuing acts of assassinations and abductions of members and leaders of the national liberation movements in Africa and elsewhere by hit squads deployed and paid by the racist régime,

Welcoming its resolution 44/244, adopted by consensus on 14 September 1990, in which, inter alia, it called upon the South African régime to abide fully by the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa,

Noting that, while some significant political measures in the right direction have been undertaken by the apartheid régime, such as the lifting of the ban on political organizations and the release of some political prisoners, apartheid is still firmly in place,

3/ A/44/697, annex.

4/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

5/ A/44/963, annex.

6/ Resolution S-16/1.

7/ See A/38/311-S/15883, annex.

8/ See A/45/482, annex I.

Welcoming the ongoing talks between the African National Congress of South Africa and the South African régime aimed at establishing a political environment suitable for negotiations towards the dismantling of apartheid, and the results achieved thus far as contained in the Groote Schuur Minute 9/ and the Pretoria Minute,

Noting with concern that political trials and the detention of political activists continue unabated in South Africa and in total disregard of the agreements reached in talks between the régime and the African National Congress of South Africa,

Deeply concerned about the current wave of violence in South Africa resulting from the continued existence of apartheid policies, practices and structures as well as from actions of those forces opposed to the democratic transformation of the country,

Gravely concerned about the apartheid régime's continued use of the death penalty against South African patriots with contemptuous disregard for appeals for clemency from the international community, including the General Assembly,

Considering the concerted campaign by the President of the apartheid régime to project himself as a reformer in order to ward off the further imposition of sanctions by the international community,

Deeply concerned about the continued terrorist acts of aggression committed by the Pretoria régime against independent African States in the region, in particular the unprovoked attacks against Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe,

Deeply indignant at the persistent policy of hostility by the racist régime of South Africa against Angola, which constitutes an act of aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country,

Reaffirming the national unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros,

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the first Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States, held at Cairo from 7 to 9 March 1977, 10/

Recalling also the Geneva Declaration on Palestine and the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights, adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, 11/

9/ A/45/268, annex.

10/ See Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-second Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1977, document S/12298.

11/ Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I.

Considering that the denial of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, sovereignty, independence and return to Palestine and the brutal suppression by the Israeli forces of the heroic uprising, the intifadah, of the Palestinian population in the occupied territories, as well as repeated Israeli aggression against the population of the region, constitute a serious threat to international peace and security,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988 and 608 (1988) of 14 January 1988 and General Assembly resolutions 43/21 of 3 November 1988, 43/177 of 15 December 1988 and 44/2 of 6 October 1989, on the deterioration of the situation of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories,

Deeply concerned and alarmed at the deplorable consequences of Israel's acts of aggression against Lebanon and its practices in and its continuing occupation of parts of southern Lebanon, as well as its refusal to implement the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978,

1. Calls upon all States to implement fully and faithfully all the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right to self-determination and independence by peoples under colonial and foreign domination;
2. Reaffirms the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, apartheid and foreign occupation by all available means, including armed struggle;
3. Reaffirms also the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and all peoples under foreign occupation and colonial domination to self-determination, national independence, territorial integrity, national unity and sovereignty without foreign interference;
4. Strongly condemns those Governments that do not recognize the right to self-determination and independence of all peoples still under colonial domination, alien subjugation and foreign occupation, notably the peoples of Africa and the Palestinian people;
5. Calls upon Israel to refrain from deporting any Palestinian civilians from the occupied Palestinian territories and to release immediately all Palestinian detainees;
6. Strongly condemns the constant and deliberate violations of the fundamental rights of the Palestinian peoples, as well as the expansionist activities of Israel in the Middle East, which constitute an obstacle to the achievement of self-determination and independence by the Palestinian people and a threat to peace and stability in the region;

7. Urges all States, the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other international organizations, to extend their support to the Palestinian people through its sole and legitimate representative, the Palestinian Liberation Organization, in its struggle to regain its right to self-determination and independence in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

8. Urgently appeals to all States, the United Nations system and other international organizations to assist in the reconstruction and economic development of Namibia;

9. Condemns the policy of "bantustanization" and reiterates its support for the oppressed people of South Africa in its just and legitimate struggle against the racist minority régime of Pretoria;

10. Reaffirms its rejection of the so-called "new constitution" as null and void, and reiterates that peace in South Africa can be guaranteed only by the establishment of majority rule through the full and free exercise of adult suffrage by all the people in a united and undivided South Africa;

11. Commends the mass democratic movement in South Africa for the tremendous advances scored during the recent campaign of defiance to unjust apartheid laws in the ongoing struggle against apartheid;

12. Welcomes the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners but condemns the continuing practice of detentions and imprisonment of political activists by the apartheid régime;

13. Strongly urges the apartheid régime to respond positively to the provisions of the Declaration of the Organization of African Unity Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa on the question of South Africa, adopted at Harare on 21 August 1989, 9/ and the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, 6/ adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989, by releasing unconditionally all political prisoners and by halting all political trials as a means of creating an environment conducive to the peaceful resolution of the South African situation;

14. Determines that the South African racist régime must take additional steps to implement the profound and irreversible changes called for in the Declaration;

15. Calls for an immediate end to violence and calls upon the South African régime to take urgent action to end it, specifically by dismantling the apartheid structures and ensuring that effective and impartial action is taken by its security forces and calls upon all parties concerned to contribute to the establishment of a climate free of violence;

16. Strongly condemns the establishment and use of armed terrorist groups by South Africa with a view to pitting them against the national liberation movements and destabilizing the legitimate Governments of southern Africa;

17. Calls once again for the full implementation of the provisions of the Declaration adopted by the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa; 2/

18. Again demands the immediate application of the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, imposed under Security Council resolution 418 (1977) of 4 November 1977, by all countries and more particularly by those countries that maintain military and nuclear co-operation with the racist Pretoria régime and continue to supply it with related matériel;

19. Strongly condemns the policy of those Western States, Israel and other States whose political, economic, military, nuclear, strategic, cultural and sports relations with the racist minority régime of South Africa encourage that régime to persist in its suppression of the aspirations of the people to self-determination and independence;

20. Denounces the collusion between Israel and South Africa and expresses support for the Declaration of the International Conference on the Alliance between South Africa and Israel; 7/

21. Strongly condemns the persistent policy of hostility and aggression pursued by racist South Africa against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola, which constitutes a violation of the New York accord of 22 December 1988; 12/

22. Demands that the Pretoria régime respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of that State, and demands the immediate payment of compensation to Angola for damages caused, in accordance with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the Security Council;

23. Commends the Government of Angola for its political will, diplomatic flexibility and constructive spirit in the search for a negotiated solution to the problems of southern Africa;

24. Strongly reaffirms its solidarity with the independent African countries and national liberation movements that are victims of murderous acts of aggression and destabilization by the racist régime of Pretoria, and calls upon the international community to render increased assistance and support to these countries in order to enable them to strengthen their defence capacity, defend their sovereignty and territorial integrity and peacefully rebuild and develop;

25. Strongly condemns the racist régime of South Africa for its past acts of destabilization against Lesotho, and strongly urges the international community to continue to extend maximum assistance to Lesotho to enable it to fulfil its international humanitarian obligations towards refugees and to use its influence on the racist régime of South Africa so that it desists from such acts against Lesotho;

26. Demands that the racist régime of South Africa pay full and adequate compensation to Botswana for the loss of life and damage to property resulting from the unprovoked and unwarranted military attacks of 14 June 1985, 19 May 1986 and 20 June 1988 on the capital of Botswana;

27. Strongly condemns the escalation of massacres of defenceless people and the continuing destruction of economic and social infrastructures perpetrated against Mozambique by armed terrorists, who are an extension of the South African army of aggression;

28. Reaffirms all relevant resolutions adopted by the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations on the question of Western Sahara, including General Assembly resolution 44/88 of 11 December 1989, and calls upon the current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue their efforts to find a just and lasting solution to the question;

29. Notes the contacts between the Government of the Comoros and the Government of France in the search for a just solution to the problem of the integration of the Comorian island of Mayotte into the Comoros, in accordance with the resolutions of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations on the question;

30. Strongly condemns the continued violation of the human rights of the peoples still under colonial domination and alien subjugation;

31. Calls for a substantial increase in all forms of assistance given by all States, United Nations organs, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to the victims of racism, racial discrimination and apartheid through national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity;

32. Reaffirms that the practice of using mercenaries against sovereign States and national liberation movements constitutes a criminal act, and calls upon the Governments of all countries to enact legislation declaring the recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries in their territories and the transit of mercenaries through their territories to be punishable offences, and prohibiting their nationals from serving as mercenaries, and to report on such legislation to the Secretary-General;

33. Demands the immediate and unconditional release of all persons detained or imprisoned as a result of their struggle for self-determination and independence, full respect for their fundamental individual rights and compliance

with article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 13/ under which no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

34. Expresses its appreciation for the material and other forms of assistance that peoples under colonial rule continue to receive from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, and calls for a substantial increase in that assistance;

35. Urges all States, the specialized agencies and other competent organizations of the United Nations system to do their utmost to ensure the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to intensify their efforts to support peoples under colonial, foreign and racist domination in their just struggle for self-determination and independence;

36. Requests the Secretary-General to give maximum publicity to the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to give the widest possible publicity to the struggle of oppressed peoples for the achievement of their self-determination and national independence and to report periodically to the General Assembly on his activities in this regard;

37. Decides to consider this item at its forty-sixth session on the basis of the reports on the strengthening of assistance to colonial Territories and peoples that Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations have been requested to submit.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights, 14/ as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

13/ Resolution 217 A (III).

14/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of an increasing number of sovereign peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-sixth, 15/ thirty-seventh, 16/ thirty-eighth, 17/ thirty-ninth, 18/ fortieth, 19/ forty-first, 20/ forty-second, 21/ forty-third, 22/ forty-fourth, 23/ forty-fifth 24/ and forty-sixth sessions, 25/

15/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1980, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum (E/1980/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

16/ Ibid., 1981, Supplement No. 5 and corrigendum (E/1981/25 and Corr.1), chap. XXVIII, sect. A.

17/ Ibid., 1982, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1982/12 and Corr.1), chap. XXVI, sect. A.

18/ Ibid., 1983, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

19/ Ibid., 1984, Supplement No. 4 and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

20/ Ibid., 1985, Supplement No. 2 (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

21/ Ibid., 1986, Supplement No. 2 (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

22/ Ibid., 1987, Supplement No. 5 and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

23/ Ibid., 1988, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

24/ Ibid., 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

25/ Ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 2 (E/1990/22), chap. II, sect. A.

/...

Reiterating its resolutions 35/35 B of 14 November 1980, 36/10 of 28 October 1981, 37/42 of 3 December 1982, 38/16 of 22 November 1983, 39/18 of 23 November 1984, 40/24 of 29 November 1985, 41/100 of 4 December 1986, 42/94 of 7 December 1987, 43/105 of 8 December 1988 and 44/80 of 8 December 1989,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 26/

1. Reaffirms that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;
2. Declares its firm opposition to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;
3. Calls upon those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, particularly the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of these acts against the peoples concerned;
4. Deplores the plight of the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;
5. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to report on this issue to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session under the item entitled "Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights".

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede
the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, territorial integrity of States and self-determination of peoples, as well as a scrupulous respect for the principle of the non-use or threat of the use of force in international relations, as developed in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States, 27/

Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples and their liberation movements for their independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, apartheid and foreign intervention and occupation, and that their legitimate struggle can in no way be considered as or equated to mercenary activity,

Recognizing that the use of mercenaries is a threat to international peace and security,

Deeply concerned about the menace that the activities of mercenaries represent for all States, particularly African and other developing States,

Alarmed at the emergence of new international criminal activities of mercenaries in collusion with drug traffickers,

Recognizing that the activities of mercenaries are contrary to the fundamental principles of international law, such as non-interference in the internal affairs of States, territorial integrity and independence, and impede the process of the self-determination of peoples struggling against colonialism, racism and apartheid and all forms of foreign domination,

Recalling all of its relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries, with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements,

Deeply concerned about the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the short-term and long-term negative effects on the economy of southern African countries resulting from mercenary aggression,

Convinced that it is necessary to develop international co-operation among States for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of such offences,

Welcoming the adoption of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, 28/

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights; 29/

2. Condemns the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries, as well as all other forms of support to mercenaries for the purpose of destabilizing and overthrowing the Governments of African States and of other developing States and fighting against the national liberation movements of peoples struggling for the exercise of their right to self-determination;

3. Affirms that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are offences of grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. Strongly condemns the racist régime of South Africa for its use of groups of armed mercenaries against national liberation movements and for the destabilization of the Governments of southern African States;

5. Denounces any State that persists in the recruitment, or permits or tolerates the recruitment, of mercenaries and provides facilities to them for launching armed aggression against other States;

6. Urges all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to ensure, by both administrative and legislative measures, that the territory of those States and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries, or for the planning of activities designed to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State and to fight the national liberation movements struggling against racism, apartheid, colonial domination and foreign intervention or occupation;

7. Calls upon all States to extend humanitarian assistance to victims of situations resulting from the use of mercenaries, as well as from colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation;

28/ Resolution 44/34, annex.

29/ A/45/488, annex.

8. Considers that to use channels of humanitarian and other assistance to finance, train and arm mercenaries is inadmissible;

9. Urges all States to take early action to sign, accede to or ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries, in order to expedite the coming into force of that Convention;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the use of mercenaries.



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INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mario de LEON (Philippines)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International Year of the Family" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Committee considered the item jointly with items 90, 92, 96 and 99 at its 11th to 17th, 25th and 37th meetings, on 17 to 23 and 30 October and 9 November 1990. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.11-17, 25 and 37).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the note of the Secretary-General on the International Year of the Family (A/45/365) and a letter dated 18 September 1990 from the Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/45/3).
4. At the 11th meeting, on 17 October, the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and the Director of the Social Development Division and Co-ordinator of the International Year of the Family made introductory statements (see A/C.3/45/SR.11).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.3/45/L.14 and Rev.1

5. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Poland introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.14), entitled "International Year of the Family", sponsored by the Bahamas, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Poland, Romania, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Guided by the resolve of the peoples of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations between nations,

"Guided also by the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2/ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 3/ according to which the widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family,

"Bearing in mind the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 4/ and recalling that by its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987 it endorsed for action the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, 5/ which called for social welfare policies to give greater attention to the family,

"Recalling its resolutions 42/134 of 7 December 1987 and 43/135 of 8 December 1988 on the need to enhance international co-operation in the field of the protection of and assistance to the family, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/23 of 26 May 1983, 1985/29 of 29 May 1985 and 1989/54 of 24 May 1989,

"1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

"2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

"3/ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

"4/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

"5/ E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

/...

"Recalling in particular its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, by which it proclaimed 1994 as the International Year of the Family and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year,

"Confident that the Year will offer a unique opportunity for mobilizing efforts, particularly at the local and national levels, to highlight the importance of the family, increase a better understanding of its functions and problems and strengthen national institutions to formulate, implement and monitor policies in respect of the family,

"Aware that for the Year to be successful and to maximize its impact and practical efficiency, adequate preparation and the widespread support of all Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as the public are required,

"Recognizing the efforts of Governments at the local and national levels in carrying out specific programmes concerning the family, in which the United Nations may have an important role to play, and in raising awareness, increasing understanding and promoting policies that improve the position and well-being of the family,

"Stressing the significant role that non-governmental organizations may play in the preparation and implementation of the programme of the Year,

"Taking into account its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

"1. Takes note of the note of the Secretary-General, prepared in pursuance of its resolution 44/82; 6/

"2. Welcomes the designation by the Secretary-General of a Co-ordinator for the International Year of the Family and the establishment of an organizational secretariat for the Year within the Social Development Division of the United Nations Office at Vienna;

"3. Invites Governments to contribute resources, including staff, to the organizational secretariat;

"4. Affirms that the major activities of the observance of the Year should be concentrated at the local and national levels and assisted by the United Nations and its system of organizations, with a view to creating among Governments, policy-makers and the public a greater awareness of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society;

"5. Invites all Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to co-operate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

"6. Appeals to the Governments that have not yet done so to make their views known to the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of the Year in order to ensure an adequate basis for formulating the programme for the Year;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to finalize a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year and to submit it for consideration by the Commission for Social Development at its session in 1991 and to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

"8. Requests the Commission for Social Development to give priority consideration at its session in 1991 to the draft programme for the Year;

"9. Invites all States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, such as co-ordinating committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up the Year, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparation for and observance of the Year;

"10. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary fund for the preparation for and observance of the Year and invites all States and interested organizations to contribute to that fund;

"11. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue taking specific measures, through all the communication media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system in the area of family issues and to increase the dissemination of information on the family;

"12. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the progress made in the preparation for the Year, including recommendations and comments of the preparatory and co-ordinating bodies for the Year;

"13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session an item entitled 'International Year of the Family'."

6. Subsequently, Austria, Bolivia, Chile, Guatemala and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Poland orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) A new preambular paragraph was inserted after the third preambular paragraph, which read as follows:

/...

"Welcoming the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the successful conclusions of the World Summit for Children, in particular the adoption of the Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action,";

(b) Two new operative paragraphs were inserted after operative paragraph 8, which read as follows:

"Invites the Commission for Social Development to ensure that all plans, programmes and activities related to the family are in accordance with the concept of equality between women and men as expressed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, and with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to ensure the incorporation of the principles relating to policies aimed at fostering equality between women and men, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, into the programme for the Year;

"Requests the Commission for Social Development to inform the Commission on the Status of Women on the preparations for the Year;".

8. The draft resolution as orally revised was subsequently issued under the symbol A/C.3/45/L.14/Rev.1.

9. At the 37th meeting, on 9 November, the representative of Poland introduced draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.14/Rev.1 on behalf of the sponsors.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution without a vote (see para. 15, draft resolution I).

11. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the Netherlands and Australia made statements.

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.15

12. At the 25th meeting, the representative of Poland introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.15), entitled "Follow-up to the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, and the negative social consequences of alcohol use", also sponsored by Iceland, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Norway, the Philippines, and Sweden.

13. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Poland orally revised the third preambular paragraph by replacing the words "urgent action" by the words "sustained action".

14. At its 37th meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 15, draft resolution II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

15. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Guided by the resolve of the peoples of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations between nations,

Guided also by the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2/ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 3/ according to which the widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family,

Bearing in mind the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 4/ and recalling that by its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987 it endorsed for action the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, 5/ which called for social welfare policies to give greater attention to the family,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of the Child 6/ and the successful conclusions of the World Summit for Children, in particular the

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

4/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

5/ E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

6/ Resolution 44/25, annex.

adoption of the Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action, 7/

Recalling its resolutions 42/134 of 7 December 1987 and 43/135 of 8 December 1988 on the need to enhance international co-operation in the field of the protection of and assistance to the family, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/23 of 26 May 1983, 1985/29 of 29 May 1985 and 1989/54 of 24 May 1989,

Recalling in particular its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, in which it proclaimed 1994 as the International Year of the Family and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year,

Confident that the Year will offer a unique opportunity for mobilizing efforts, particularly at the local and national levels, to highlight the importance of the family, increase a better understanding of its functions and problems and strengthen national institutions to formulate, implement and monitor policies in respect of the family,

Aware that for the Year to be successful and to maximize its impact and practical efficiency, adequate preparation and the widespread support of all Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and of the public are required,

Recognizing the efforts of Governments at the local and national levels in carrying out specific programmes concerning the family, in which the United Nations may have an important role to play, and in raising awareness, increasing understanding and promoting policies that improve the position and well-being of the family,

Stressing the significant role that non-governmental organizations may play in the preparation and implementation of the programme of the Year,

Taking into account its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General, prepared in pursuance of its resolution 44/82; 8/

2. Welcomes the designation by the Secretary-General of a Co-ordinator for the International Year of the Family and the establishment of an organizational secretariat for the Year within the Social Development Division of the United Nations Office at Vienna;

7/ A/45/625, annex.

8/ A/45/365.

3. Invites Governments to contribute resources, including staff, to the organizational secretariat;

4. Affirms that the major activities of the observance of the Year should be concentrated at the local and national levels and assisted by the United Nations and its system of organizations, with a view to creating among Governments, policy-makers and the public a greater awareness of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society;

5. Invites all Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to co-operate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

6. Appeals to the Governments that have not yet done so to make their views known to the Secretary-General on the preparation for and observance of the Year in order to ensure an adequate basis for formulating the programme for the Year;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to finalize a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year and to submit it for consideration by the Commission for Social Development at its session in 1991 and to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

8. Requests the Commission for Social Development to give priority consideration at its session in 1991 to the draft programme for the Year;

9. Invites the Commission for Social Development to ensure that all plans, programmes and activities related to the family are in accordance with the concept of equality between women and men as expressed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 4/ and with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 2/ and to ensure the incorporation of the principles relating to policies aimed at fostering equality between women and men, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, into the programme for the Year;

10. Requests the Commission for Social Development to inform the Commission on the Status of Women on the preparations for the Year;

11. Invites all States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, such as co-ordinating committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up the Year, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparation for and observance of the Year;

2/ Resolution 34/180, annex.

12. Requests the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary fund for the preparation for and observance of the Year and invites all States and interested organizations to contribute to that fund;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue taking specific measures, through all the communication media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system in the area of family issues and to increase the dissemination of information on the family;

14. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the progress made in the preparation for the Year, including recommendations and comments of the preparatory and co-ordinating bodies for the Year;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "International Year of the Family".

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Follow-up to the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, and the negative social consequences of alcohol use

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/125 of 7 December 1987, in which, inter alia, it endorsed the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, 10/ adopted at the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/49 of 24 May 1989 concerning the follow-up to the Guiding Principles, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to carry out a study on the negative social consequences of alcohol use, based on the report of an expert meeting to be convened,

Convinced that the dangerous dimension of alcohol use requires sustained action for the implementation of a comprehensive international response, based on a common effort by all States,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the holding of the Expert Meeting on the Negative Social Consequences of Alcohol Use, held at Oslo from 27 to 31 August 1990, convened by the Government of Norway with the substantive support of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat;

10/ E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

2. Takes note of the report of the Expert Meeting 11/ and requests the Secretary-General to make the report available to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-second session;

3. Invites Member States to submit their comments on the report of the Expert Meeting to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-second session;

4. Requests the Commission for Social Development to report on its discussions of the report and the comments from Member States to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1991 with proposals for future action.

11/ A/C.3/45/3, annex.



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INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mario DE LEON (Philippines)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "International Covenants on Human Rights" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item jointly with items 89, 93, 97, 106, 109 and 110 at its 35th to 42nd, 49th, 51st, 55th, 57th, 59th, 61st and 62nd meetings, on 7 to 9, 12 to 14, 21, 23 and 28 to 30 November, and 3 and 4 December 1990. An account of the Committee's general discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/45/SR.35-42).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

- (a) Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/45/3, chap. V, sect. A); 1/
- (b) Report of the Human Rights Committee; 2/

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/45/3/Rev.1).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/45/40, vols. I and II).

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/45/403);

(d) Letter dated 20 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/174);

(e) Letter dated 23 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/178);

(f) Letter dated 8 October 1990 from the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Hungary and of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the Secretary-General (A/45/597);

(g) Letter dated 3 October 1990 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Secretary of State of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/598-S/21854);

(h) Letter dated 19 October from the Permanent Representatives of Poland and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/45/657);

(i) Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fourth session. 3/

4. At the 35th meeting, on 7 November, the Director of the Implementation of International Instruments and Procedures Branch of the Centre for Human Rights made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/45/SR.35).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/45/L.53

5. At the 49th meeting, on 21 November, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Algeria, Australia, Austria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Spain, Sweden and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/45/L.53), entitled "International Covenants on Human Rights". Subsequently, Cyprus joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 55th meeting, on 28 November, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 8 below).

3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 3 (E/1990/23).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Saudi Arabia made a statement.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

8. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/129 of 15 December 1989 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/20 of 23 February 1990,

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights 4/ constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 5/ form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Considering that the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenants on 16 December 1991 provides an appropriate occasion to focus on the fundamental importance and special status of these basic human rights instruments of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 6/

Noting, in this regard, that a number of States Members of the United Nations have yet to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 4/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other,

4/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

5/ Resolution 217 A (III).

6/ A/45/403.

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee in the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto, 4/

Also recognizing the important role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Welcoming the submission to the General Assembly of the annual report of the Human Rights Committee 7/ and the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fourth session, 8/

Considering that the effective functioning of treaty bodies established in accordance with the relevant provisions of international instruments on human rights plays a fundamental role and hence represents an important continuing concern of the United Nations,

Noting with concern the critical situation with regard to overdue reports from States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations and conclusions of the meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies, held at Geneva from 1 to 5 October 1990, 9/

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Human Rights Committee on its thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions, 4/ including the suggestions and recommendations of a general nature approved by the Committee;

2. Also takes note with appreciation of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fourth session, including its suggestions and recommendations;

3. Expresses its satisfaction with the serious and constructive manner in which both Committees are carrying out their function;

4. Urges States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights to pay active attention to the protection and promotion of civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights, taking into consideration their indivisible and interrelated character and the fact that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights;

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/45/40, vols. I and II).

8/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 3 (E/1990/23).

9/ A/45/636, annex.

5. Urges those States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that have been requested by the Human Rights Committee to provide additional information to comply with that request;

6. Also urges States parties to fulfil their reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights;

7. Notes with satisfaction that the majority of States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and an increasing number of States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have been represented by experts in the presentation of their reports, thereby assisting the respective monitoring bodies in their work, and hopes that all States parties to both Covenants will arrange such representation in the future;

8. Again urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

9. Invites the States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to consider making the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

10. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

11. Stresses the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and underlines the necessity of strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency, so that the justification for and appropriateness of measures taken in these circumstances can be assessed;

12. Appeals to States parties to the Covenants that have exercised their sovereign right to make reservations in accordance with relevant rules of international law to consider whether any such reservations should be reviewed;

13. Urges States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations bodies to extend their full support and co-operation to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

14. Welcomes the adoption by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of a general comment (No. 2) regarding international technical assistance measures in relation to article 22 of the Covenant;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights informed of the relevant activities of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee against Torture and, where appropriate, other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the specialized agencies, and also to transmit the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to those bodies;

16. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates;

17. Again urges the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Human Rights Committee, to take determined steps to give more publicity to the work of that Committee and, similarly, to the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

18. Encourages all Governments to publish the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, under the agenda item entitled "International Covenants on Human Rights", a report on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

20. Decides to hold a commemorative meeting in honour of the Covenants on 16 December 1991, the twenty-fifth anniversary of their adoption.
